

Mulago to start organ transplant

By Michael Odeng

Mulago National Referral hospital will start conducting organ transplant in February next year.

On Saturday, Mulago executive director Dr. Baterana Byarugaba revealed that the hospital will be carrying out neural and heart surgery and organ transplants. "Starting next year, we shall be conducting neuro transplant and surgery in the national specialised hospital," Byarugaba disclosed.

Neural transplantation is the transplantation of nerve cells and tissues into the brain and spinal cord.

The director made the revelation during the 50th free eye and health checkup camp at Old Mulago Hospital eye section next to the casualty ward. The camp was organised by the North Indian Cultural Association of Uganda (NICA).

He said they intend to train more eye specialists and post them upcountry to serve the rural people.

In the three-day camp, 125 people from Rushere, Fort Portal, Lugazi, Mityana Mbarara and Kampala districts underwent cataract surgery, carried out by Mulago doctors.

State minister of health Sarah Opendi urged Mulago eye specialists to extend services to regional health facilities and hospitals based in rural areas.

Opendi said Organ Transplant Bill is being drafted by the health ministry to help to regulate the harvesting of body parts in the country.